

REMARKS

The attached drawing changes are submitted for approval. New numerals 100-109 have been added to the Figs to identify elements discussed in the specification, which were not designated in the drawings. Other numerals have been added to the Figs for clarity of the description, which numerals were omitted from one or more of the Figs.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 4-6, 11 and 13-16 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Powell '434. The Examiner stated:

"Powell discloses refrigerator cabinet consisting of an outer shell and a plastic inner shell and comprising: a partition (10) between fresh food and freezer compartment ceiling and consisting of a disposed outer metal shell (16) and an inner plastic liner (18), an expanded styrene bead thermal insulator (22), and elongated strip (28) of flexible compressible and resilient insulating material such as polyurethane folded over that top edge, a pair of channels (30) formed on sides with ledges (32) that supports the partition, a pair of raised rims (36) and furthermore tabs (46) formed on the rims."

The Examiner is mainly correct in his statement, however Applicants must disagree that the limitations of Claim 1 are met or suggested by Powell '434. Claim 1 requires that "said shelf having a preformed core formed of a foam material **fastened** (emphasis added) to said inner

AMENDMENTS TO DRAWING FIGURES:

Please enter the changes marked in red on the attached drawing Figs..1-4.

wall of said outer housing box". See particularly, Fig 4, and page 12, lines 6-13 which state:

"As can be seen in Fig. 4, the guide groove 16 extends not only over the side flanks 15 of the core 12, but also over the rear side thereof, and a rib 28 which engages in a load-bearing manner in the guide groove 16 is also formed on the rear wall of the inner container 1. The shelf 4 thereby obtains a high load-bearing capacity without excessive wall thicknesses of the covering panels 18, 20 or of the core 12 being required for this."

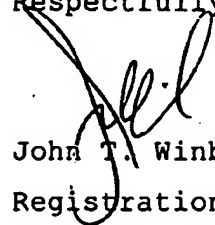
In contrast, Powell '434 provides a pair of channels 30, which include ledges 32 on to which the metal plate 24 rests. The core 22 is not fastened or connected to the inner wall 18, but is spaced therefrom to provide an overlap "to permit the tray 20 and the liner 18 to expand and contract relative to one another" col. 3, lines 1,2. The overlap further is provided to permit "reasonable manufacturing variations in the dimensions of the liner 18 and tray 20 without resulting in an unsightly gap" col. 3, lines 6-8.

Applicants' claimed invention as set forth is Claim 1, is directed to fastening the preformed core of foam material to the inner wall of the outer housing box. This is not shown or suggested by Powell '434 and Claims 1 and 2-16 dependent therefrom clearly are allowable over Powell '434.

The Examiner indicated Claims 2, 3, 7-10 and 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, for which the Examiner is thanked, but for the reasons stated above Applicants have not amended the original claims.

Original Claims 1-1 6remain in the application and are in allowable form. Early allowance thereof is solicited. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted



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March 24, 2005

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